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Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kans

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HASKELL INSTITUTE, LAWRENCE, KANS.

MARCH 24, 1886.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PERKINS, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill H. R. 3388.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3388) making an appropriation for the completion of Haskell Institute, an Indian school at Lawrence, Kans., submit the following report :

As originally designed, the Haskell Institute was intended to accommodate 500 Indian scholars. In its present and unfinished condition its maximum capacity is 350 scholars. On the 19th day of December last there were in attendance upon this school 322 Indian boys and girls, and since that time several have been admitted, so that it is now nearly or quite filled to its maximum capacity. The work of this school has commended it to all visitors and to all who interest themselves in the cause of Indian education and Indian civilization. It was opened to scholars less than two years ago, but its progress has been such that the urgent necessity for additional accommodations is apparent to all who have given the matter attention, and has the warm approval of the superintendent of Indian education, the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and the Secretary of the Interior.

The present superintendent of the school, Arthur Grabowskii, was before your committee and gave an interesting and detailed statement of its management and accomplishments, and, encouraged by the results, he earnestly urged upon the attention of the committee the necessity of this appropriation. The school is located on 320 acres of land adjoining the beautiful city of Lawrence, on the Kansas River, and has many advantages in its favor as an Indian industrial school. It is only 150 miles from the Indian Territory, and within 40 miles of it are Indian reservations, peopled by the wards of the Government, who should be qualified for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, and the superintendent, Mr. Grabowskii, assured the committee that if the additional accommodations were provided he could, within a brief period, fill the school to its full capacity by Indian children, voluntarily offered him from the Indian Territory and the great reservations of the North and West. Situated as the school is in the great grain-producing and cattle and hog-raising State of Kansas, supplies can be obtained for it at much less cost to the Government than in most sections of the country, and the 320 acres of land belonging to the school, and donated to

the Government by the public spirited citizens of Lawrence, in consequence of the location of this industrial institute at the gates of their city, is rich and productive and capable of a high state of cultivation, and from which very much can be raised, thus lessening the burdens to the Government in sustaining the institute. The University of Kansas is also located at Lawrence, which will give to the ambitious Indian who is not content with his industrial education an opportunity of completing it in an institution of learning second to none in the land. Building material and labor are cheap at Lawrence, and we know of no place in the country where the Government can provide these needed additional educational advantages for the Indians for less money than at the site of this industrial school. In proof of this, special attention is called to the report of the board of visitors which accompanies this report, and in which the necessity of these additional accommodations is suggested and their character and estimated cost are given. In his last annual report the superintendent of Indian education has this to say of the Lawrence school:

Haskell Institute, at Lawrence, Kans., was established in 1884. In September of that year it was opened with 125 pupils. This school is in need of more buildings, and with adequate facilities may be made the most useful of all the training schools. There is every reason to believe that the present superintendent, Mr. Graboroski, will manage it with much more than ordinary ability

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior are of the opinion that the bill should be amended so as to authorize the purchase of additional land. In this opinion your committee concur, and recommend that the bill be so amended as to authorize, from the money appropriated, the purchase of forty acres of additional land for the accommodation and use of the school. The letters of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and copies of resolutions adopted by the board of trade of the city of Lawrence, are attached hereto and made part of this report.

In this report your committee do not deem it necessary to enter into a discussion of the Indian educational system, but, believing that great good is being accomplished by this Lawrence school, the passage of the bill is recommended, with an amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 19, 1886.

SIR: Hon. B. W. Perkins, of the House Committee on Indian Affairs, has transmitted, with request that certain information be furnished to said committee thereon, H. R. 3388, being "A bill making appropriation (in the sum of \$58,260) for the completion of Haskell Institute, an Indian school at Lawrence, Kans."

The subject having been referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I transmit herewith copy of his letter of 12th instant, with inclosures noted therein, relating thereto.

The Commissioner remarks that the bill as framed seems to restrict the expenditure of the appropriation to "the completion of buildings." He states that the school needs more land, and suggests that the bill be so amended as to allow the money to be expended "for the completion of buildings and the purchase of additional land," in which suggestion I concur.

The bill (H. R. 3388) is herewith respectfully returned.

Very respectfully,

L. Q. C. LAMAR,
Secretary.

THE CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS,
House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE),
Washington, February 12, 1886.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge this receipt of a communication from Hon. B. W. Perkins, of the Committee on Indian Affairs, inclosing copy of a bill (H. R. 3388) making an appropriation for the completion of the Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kans., which communication and inclosure was referred by you to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for report February 3, 1886, and in answer thereto I respectfully state that inclosed you will find papers referred by you to this office of dates December 26, 1885, and December 28, 1885.

The superintendent of Indian schools and myself cordially agree with the recommendations contained in these papers, and believe that proper legislation for completing the building at, and for purchasing additional ground for, Haskell Institute is necessary.

The inclosed bill seems to restrict the expenditure to the completion of buildings. The school needs more land, and I respectfully suggest that it should be so amended as to allow the money to be expended for the completion of buildings and the purchase of additional land.

Very respectfully,

J. D. C. ATKINS,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

OFFICE OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Lawrence, Kans., December 22, 1885.

At a meeting of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce held December 19, 1885, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, Haskell Institute still remains in an unfinished condition, with the original plans contemplated by its founders but partially carried out; and

Whereas its present maximum capacity for receiving pupils, as we learn, will be reached early in 1886; and

Whereas the board of visitors for this institution, appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, in its report just submitted to the Department of the Interior, recommends the completion of the institution so as to accommodate 500 Indian scholars by an appropriation of \$58,200: Therefore,

Resolved, That this body does endorse and approve of the action of the board of visitors, and urges upon our entire representation in Congress to lend an active influence to secure such appropriation, which we believe to be necessary for the good of the school and the best interest of the public service so far as the industrial education of the Indians is concerned.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that much of the supplies consumed at the institute may be bought in Kansas far cheaper and of a better quality than the same are now furnished by the Government.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior, and also to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

R. W. CUNNINGHAM,
Secretary.

LAWRENCE, KANS., *December 19, 1885.*

SIR: We, the undersigned, of the board of visitors for Haskell Institute, at Lawrence, beg leave to submit to you this our first report:

We have on several occasions visited this Indian Industrial School, and we find in attendance at the present time 322 pupils, being an increase of about 125 since the present superintendent assumed control, the middle of July last. Out of the 200 Indians present in the school at that date he has returned to their respective tribes 60 whom he deemed afflicted with incurable ailments, some of them, and others of this number for the reason that they did not consent to remain in the school for three years—a requirement as to time which the superintendent has seen fit, as he informs us, to enforce upon all pupils.

As to bodily appearance and cleanliness the Indians present a very creditable appearance. They are well dressed, and, so far as we could learn, orderly and submissive to the rules of the school.

The dormitories, wash-rooms, dining-room, and school-rooms are well cared for, and appeared as clean as we might well expect.

Much improvement has been made since our first visit in May last in grading about the buildings, whitewashing in the basements, and in making proper drains to secure health and comfort.

The officers and employes seem to be efficient and devoted to their duties. The superintendent himself is a worker and his heart apparently is in his work.

He informs us that he has introduced a kind of military system of governing the school. The Indians at first seemed somewhat restive under the stringency of the rules and regulations imposed by him upon them. We defer for the present the expression of any opinion as to what we may think of this feature of his government. We wait for results rather.

In your letter of appointment we are asked "to make such suggestions and recommendations as in our judgments may be for the general welfare of the Indian children, the better management of the school, and for the interest of the public service."

The Haskell Institute is an unfinished enterprise. Only a portion of the buildings contemplated when it was founded have been erected. It was planned to accommodate 500 pupils when finished. Its maximum capacity, as it now stands, is 350, being only 28 more than is to-day in attendance. The superintendent thinks he will have it filled early in January next. We therefore recommend the following outlays to be made, and in doing this we have availed ourselves of the experience of the architect who built the buildings already there, as well as have gathered up such other information upon the point as we could do from trustworthy sources.

NEEDS AND ESTIMATES OF COST.

(1) Water-supply, with suitable power.....	\$2,500
(2) Gas and fixtures throughout.....	2,500
(3) General dining-room with a steam laundry over the present boiler-house.....	8,500
(4) A storage building for Government stores.....	1,300
(5) Corn-cribs, wagon-shed, and implement and tool rooms.....	750
(6) Cattle-sheds, a piggery, and poultry-house.....	500
(7) A quantity of hot-bed sash, with a small conservatory and a root-house attached for storage of potatoes, beets, &c.....	1,000
(8) A residence for the superintendent.....	3,000
(9) Three cottages for employes.....	4,500
(10) A gymnasium for boys, and especially for use in bad weather.....	1,500
(11) Shops for engineer, carpenter, harness-maker, shoemaker, mason, and stonemason's shed.....	2,200
(12) The extension of the hospital on plan furnished by the United States Indian Department, so as to accommodate 20 male and 20 female patients.....	4,000
(13) The purchase of 40 acres of additional arable land.....	4,000
(14) For building four dormitories, so as to accommodate 150 more pupils, as contemplated by the original plan, estimated to cost \$150 per pupil....	22,500

We also suggest, inasmuch as this school is situated in a rich farming country, to your favorable consideration the wisdom of buying much of the supplies for the school in open market, and thereby make no inconsiderable saving to the Government. Especially can this be affirmed of all meats, flour, corn, and groceries of all kinds used. You pay the year round for these stores far more than the same can be purchased on our streets, notably so in the case of corn and beef.

This school has the warmest sympathy of a whole State enlisted in its behalf. We venture to entertain the hope that the above recommendations will meet with your approval.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

JAMES S. EMERY.
J. G. HASKELL.
C. S. DUNCAN.
D. L. HOADLEY.

Hon. L. Q. C. LAMAR,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

We, citizens of Lawrence, having acquainted ourselves with the workings of the Indian School, and having read the above recommendations of the Board of Visitors, do cordially indorse the views above expressed.

GEORGE INNES.
GEO. LEIS.
OSBUN SHANNON, P. M.